



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TYLER MAN SENTENCED FOR FEDERAL EXTORTION

(Tyler, TX) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today that a 22-year-old Tyler man has been sentenced to 108 months in federal prison for threatening another person in relation to a drug debt in the Eastern District of Texas. **ROBERT STEPHEN ADKINSON** was sentenced today by United States District Judge Leonard Davis.

U.S. Attorney Orwig was pleased with the sentence, "Illegal drug activities are known to produce violence. This behavior will not be tolerated in the Eastern District of Texas."

According to information presented in court, Adkinson admitted to physically assaulting and threatening an individual on February 26, 2005 at an apartment complex in Tyler in order to collect a drug debt. In July 2005, he was indicted and charged with Collecting an Extension of Credit by Extortion. Adkinson received a sentence of 108 months in federal prison for this violation.

Adkinson was also indicted on October 4, 2005, for Possession with Intent to Distribute Methamphetamine and Possession of a Firearm in relation to that crime, which occurred on July 20, 2004. He pleaded guilty to those charges in December 2005. Adkinson received 106 months in federal

prison for these charges to run concurrent with the extortion sentence.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives and the Tyler Police Department. The cases were prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Jim Middleton and Bill Baldwin.

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